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of the civil war and discusses briefly the historical value, literary style, and textual tradition of Caesar's military classic.

The historical summary, which comprises the first half of the introduction, is so condensed as to be of little value, if not actually misleading, to the general reader. A few more pages would not have added materially to the size of the volume and might have been well employed in giving a less absurdly inadequate account of the complex historical setting of the conflict. The notes on the text necessarily are few and almost entirely restricted to textual difficulties. An index of persons and places, followed by six maps illustrating five battlefields and Curio's campaign in Africa, closes the volume. The index is fairly satisfactory for ready reference, but why should it be necessary for the reader to know that the gentile name of Labienus was Attius in order to discover something about that interesting officer's career? As regards the maps, it is difficult to conjecture why the editor should have chosen to illustrate Curio's African campaign rather than the extensive movements of the chief actors, Caesar and Pompeius.

The principal work of the editor, that of turning the Latin text into idiomatic English, is on the whole acceptably done. In the introduction he acknowledges that Caesar's constant use of the historical present is excessive when compared with English standards, and yet he chooses to reproduce it in his translation to a considerable extent. It might as well be recognized once for all that the Latin historical present is rarely the stylistic equivalent of the same grammatical tense in English. In the case of extensive passages in indirect discourse the translator frequently and without comment transfers the thought to direct discourse in the English. His courage is to be commended and his example followed.

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*A Study of the Cognomina of Soldiers in the Roman Legions.* By LINDLEY RICHARD DEAN. A Dissertation Presented to the Faculty of Princeton University in Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Princeton: University Press, 1916. Pp. 321.

This Princeton dissertation is a very creditable investigation of an interesting subject. Worthy of note also, as showing the trend of recent classical study, is the fact that the province of Africa furnishes more than one-third of the 5,700 names of soldiers, and that all of the evidence dealing with the whole subject is derived from inscriptions and papyri. Such a study would have been not only impossible, but beyond the range of the imagination, for the classical scholar of a century ago.

In chapter i the author discusses in detail the 56 most popular cognomina, including in his list all which occur at least 20 times. Only one of these,

Alexander, is of other than Roman origin. Many cognomina thus arbitrarily excluded are also worthy of special discussion; but the work is voluminous as it stands, and some limit must be placed even to a modern thesis for the Doctor's degree. Chapter ii deals with the classification of cognomina, their grammatical composition, and their origin. Chapter iii adds some supplementary paragraphs, the most curious of which are those on double cognomina and uncomplimentary cognomina. Although the author tries to assign reasons for the popularity of the various cognomina in different regions and periods, it is a little disappointing that the results are not more precise. In only one particular would the reviewer take issue with the investigator's statements. Repeatedly a distinction is made between the cognomina chosen by common soldiers and those adopted by centurions; see under Datus, Donatus, Fortunatus, Honoratus, etc. In every case, it is true, the wording is somewhat vague, but the author seems to imply that the choice is not a matter of chance so far as the soldier's rank in the legion is concerned. On the contrary, whether the soldier had his Roman name from birth or adopted it on his enlistment, at neither time could he have been sure of future promotion. We must deny the gift of prophecy even to a youth who has attained the rank of a raw recruit.

A short bibliography is followed by an alphabetical list of all soldiers and underofficers of the legions arranged according to cognomina. In addition to the name, there are given rank and legion, the date when possible, the place where the stone is found, and the place where the inscription or papyrus is published. The list takes up the major part of the work and is a most useful supplement to the dissertation.

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*Stoicheia, Heft II: Studien zum antiken Sternnglauben.* VON ERWIN PFEIFFER. Leipzig und Berlin: Teubner, 1916. Pp. 130.

In this brief book of studies the author has given a comprehensive treatment of Greek and Roman astrometeorology, from its unscientific foreshadowing in classical Greek literature, down through the skeptical materialism of the Ionic philosophers, to its wider acceptance through the good company of the Stoic theories of *συμπάθεια* and *ἡ εἰμαρμένη*, its reconciliation with the tenets of Christianity, and its persistence down to the final conflict with modern science. The book contains not only a review of the literature on this subject but an investigation anew of the more important evidences, with a view to distinguishing between *ποιεῖν* and *σημαίνειν* in reference to astral influences.

In Homer cosmic forces are still subject to the arbitrary will of the Olympic gods—an explanation which solves the contradiction that the aut or feels in *Il.* xxii. 30, where Sirius is a *κακὸν σῆμα*, and xxii. 31, where the same star *φέρει πολλὸν πυρετὸν δειλοῖσι βροτοῖσιν*.